

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 OIC-04 SS-14 CAB-09

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01

FAA-00 NSC-10 RSR-01 /100 W
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R 261821 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0019

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 03571

MONTREAL FOR US ICAO REP

E. O 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, OTRA, PINS

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - ICAO DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE/ ASSEMBLY -
PREPARATORY CONSULTATION

REF: STATE 51558

1. DURING CALL MARCH 20 TO INFORM FCO OF US INTENTION
TERMINATE NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN STATIONS AGREEMENT (SEP-
TEL) EMBOFF WAS TOLD BY MELLON, DEPUTY HEAD MARINE AND
TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, THAT UKG WAS PLANNING TO INSTRUCT
ITS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO PROPOSE INFORMAL US/ UK TALKS
FIRST WEEK IN MAY IN WASHINGTON. MELLON SAID TIMING OF
TALKS WAS DESIGNED TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TRAVEL BY CAA' S
LEGAL ADVISOR ARNOLD KEAN TO MONTREAL DURING THAT PERIOD
FOR ICAO MEETING RE THIRD PARTY LIABILITY CLAIMS.

2. MELLON SAID UK HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH FRENCH CON-
CERNING AUGUST CONFERENCE/ ASSEMBLY AND THEY HOPED TO
HAVE INFORMAL MEETING WITH FRENCH IN MID- APRIL, RESULTS
OF WHICH KEAN WILL BE ABLE PROVIDE IN US/ UK MEETING IF
IT CAN BE ARRANGED. ACCORDING TO MELLON, FRENCH HAVE
HINTED MAY BE POSSIBLE MELD FRENCH PROPOSAL WITH UK-
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SWISS PROPOSAL FOR CONSIDERATION BY EXTRAORDINARY ASSEMBLY.

3. REFTEL RECEIVED AFTER ABOVE DISCUSSION WITH MELLON. IN VIEW OF SENSITIVITY EXPRESSED IN REFTEL FOR CENTRAL COORDINATION OF DELICATE MANEUVERING PRECEDING PREPARATORY CONSULTATIONS AND SINCE UK PLANS TO PROPOSE SPECIFIC DATES FOR TALKS THROUGH ITS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, WE DO NOT INTEND TO CONVEY US ACCEPTANCE OF TALKS IN GENERAL APRIL/ MAY TIME FRAME (PARA 1 REFTEL) UNLESS FURTHER INSTRUCTED.

4. WE TRUST DEPARTMENT' S COMMENT PARA 2 REFTEL NOT INTENDED TO MEAN US DOUBTS SINCERITY OF BRITISH INTEREST IN OBTAINING EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS AGAINST COUNTRIES AFFORDING SANCTUARY FOR AIR TERRORISTS. ALTHOUGH UK HAS AT TIMES BEEN DIFFICULT TO WORK WITH ON SANCTIONS QUESTION, THIS PRIMARILY DUE TO FACT BRITISH HAVE VERY STRONG VIEWS OF THEIR OWN ON THIS SUBJECT PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN LEGAL AND PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS. THIS CONCERN ON THEIR PART AND DIFFERENCE IN APPROACH THEY HAVE ADOPTED, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED TO MEAN THEY ARE NOT GENUINELY INTERESTED IN EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS.

5. WITH REGARD CAUTION AGAINST FURTHER DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN EMBASSY AND UK OFFICIALS (PARA 4 REFTEL), WE SHOULD NOTE THAT INITIAL REQUEST THAT WE RAISE SUBJECT OF ICAO LEGAL COMMITTEE WAS CONTAINED IN US DEL' S WRAP-UP REPORT OF LEGAL COMMITTEE MEETING (MONTREAL 216) WHICH ASKED THAT WE LET UKG KNOW WE WERE DISAPPOINTED WITH LACK OF CLOSE COOPERATION AT MONTREAL. UK REACTION TO THIS CRITICISM WAS TO SUGGEST INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS TO REVIEW POSITIONS (LONDON 3263). WE CAN APPRECIATE NEED FOR CLOSE CENTRAL COORDINATION OF MOVES RELATING TO FORTHCOMING ASSEMBLY/ CONFERENCE AND CONSULTATIONS PRELIMINARY TO IT. WE ASSUME, HOWEVER, THAT DEPARTMENT WOULD WANT US TO REMAIN IN TOUCH WITH APPROPRIATE UK OFFICIALS IN ORDER TO REPORT UK VIEWS.

ANNENBERG

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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